

Assembly Bill No. 587

CHAPTER 527

An act to amend Section 22844 of the Government Code, relating to public employees' health benefits.

[Approved by Governor October 5, 2005. Filed with
Secretary of State October 5, 2005.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 587, Negrete McLeod. Public employees: health benefits.

The Public Employees' Medical and Hospital Care Act requires the Board of Administration of the Public Employees' Retirement System to approve health benefit plans for certain public employees and annuitants, and authorizes the board to contract with carriers offering health benefit plans. The act prohibits employees, annuitants, and family members who become eligible on or after January 1, 1985, for Part A and Part B of Medicare from enrolling in a basic health benefit plan.

This bill would further prohibit employees, annuitants, and family members enrolled in a prescription drug plan under Part D of Medicare from enrolling in a board-approved health benefit plan, unless enrolled in an approved Medicare Advantage plan.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 22844 of the Government Code is amended to read:

22844. (a) Employees, annuitants, and family members who become eligible to enroll on or after January 1, 1985, for Part A and Part B of Medicare may not be enrolled in a basic health benefit plan. If the employee, annuitant, or family member is enrolled in Part A and Part B of Medicare, he or she may enroll in a Medicare health benefit plan.

(b) Employees, annuitants, and family members enrolled in a prescription drug plan under Part D of Medicare may not be enrolled in a board-approved health benefit plan. This subdivision does not apply to an individual enrolled in a board-approved Medicare Advantage health benefit plan offered under this part.

(c) This section does not apply to employees and family members that are specifically excluded from enrollment in a Medicare health benefit plan by federal law or regulation.